COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE BUDGET SESSION, 1117

Friday, *the* $\frac{\textit{31st July 1942}}{\textit{15th Karkadagam 1117}}$

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam at eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble the President (A. F. W. Dixon Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.), in the Chair.

Messrs. L. M. Pylee and H. J. Walmesley were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

MINISTER—ALLOWANCE OR INCREASE OF SALARY

31. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state whether the Hon'ble Minister has requested for an allowance or increase of salary for the extra work and travelling done in connection with the National War Front?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* No.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether the question of increase of salary or allowance came up for the consideration of the Government at any time?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Yes. I explained yesterday during the discussion on a cut motion that the War Publicity Officer who is the State Organiser placed this point for the consideration of the Government and then the Minister said that he did not want.

MERCHANTS IN MATTANCHERI—WINDING UP OF BUSINESS ON ACCOUNT OF EXCESS PROFITS TAX

32. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state the number of merchants who wound up their business in Mattancheri and left the State because of the levying of the Excess Profits Tax?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* No merchant is known to have wound up his business in Mattancheri and left the State on account of the levy of Excess Profits Tax.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether any merchant has changed his principal place of business from Cochin to Travancore or any other place on account of the imposition of this Excess Profits Tax?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* One merchant, we know, left for British India. That could not have been on account of the Excess Profits Tax, because there it is larger.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether Government has got a report on this.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):* From whom?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* It is confidential.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Nominated):* Has the Government information that he has left?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Yes. He left for British India.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether this Excess Profits Tax exists in Travancore?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* I want notice. I don't think there is.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether the Government is aware that the merchants Hajee Abdul Kareem and Hajee Abdul Lateef have left.

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Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: Are the Government in the habit of enquiring into the reasons why merchants are shifting from one place to another?

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur)*: Is it not on profit that the Excess Profits Tax is levied?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: It is 60 per cent on the excess profits over and above the normal profit.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur)*: The excess profit is enjoyed because of the convenience in Cochin?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Yes, quite so.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: May I know, Sir, if the merchants in Mattancheri are going to shift themselves from Mattancheri to other places, then there will be an appreciable reduction in the tax, even in the income-tax?

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: That is a hypothetical question.

AIR RAID SHELTERS, ERNAKULAM—EXPENDITURE OF

33. Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: Will Government be pleased to state the amount of expenditure incurred on account of the construction of air raid shelters in the town of Ernakulam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Works estimated to cost Rs. 17,424 have been completed. Payment to the extent of Rs. 9,633 have been made.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda)*: May I know how much it is spent for Mattancheri?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: I want notice.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda)*: Is it constructed at any other place?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: In Mattancheri we have got air raid shelters.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda)*: Is it existing in any place other than Mattancheri.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: No. It is in Ernakulam and Mattancheri alone.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda)*: Is there any proposal to have it in other places?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Yes. At Irinjalakkuda, Trichur and Kunnamkulam.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda)*: When will it be started.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: I can't say exactly. Estimates are being prepared.

RICE—PURCHASE OF BY GOVERNMENT

34. Mr. M. L. Joseph *(Latin-Christians-Cranganur)*: Will Government kindly state.—

(*a*) if purchase of rice on behalf of the Government is continuing now;

(*b*) if not, has Mr. T. R. Subramanya Ayyar reverted to his permanent post;

(*c*) if Mr. T. R. Subramanya Ayyar has not reverted, will Government kindly state the nature of the work he is doing now;

(*d*) will Government be pleased to state the pay of Mr. T. R. Subramanya Ayyar was getting before his new appointment and the pay he is getting now?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*:

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Inspecting depots yet remaining to be closed, checking and tabulating the accounts of depots already closed and about to be closed and settling claims of parties to whom monies are due.

(*d*) Before the new appointment Rs. 230 in the Rs. 150—250 grade. Now Rs. 210.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural)*: He was getting Rs. 230. Now he is getting only Rs. 210. Why, was he punished?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: There was some punishment.

CANDIDATES SELECTED FOR THE BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY AND THE MEDICAL AND ENGINEERING COLLEGES, MADRAS

35. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: Will Government be pleased to state the names of students selected for admission into Benares Hindu University, Madras Medical College and Madras Engineering College, respectively for the last 5 years along with the names of other applicants submitted for the same?

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